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We claim

1. A seating system having a beam which is adapted to be connected to a surface adjacent the position at which seats are to be located, means whereby at least one seat can be connected to the beam characterised in that the beam is so
5 formed as to be adapted to receive a formation on the base of a seat whereby the seat can be located at any required position along the beam.
2. A seating system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the beam may comprise an extrusion having two spaced parts one of which parts is adapted to receive
10 means whereby the extrusion can be connected directly or indirectly to a support and the other part provides means whereby seats can be connected to the extrusion, the two portions of the beam being arranged that connection of seats to the extrusion is in no way obstructed by the connection of the beam to supports.
3. A Seating system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the part of the beam which
15 can receive means whereby the extrusion can be connected to a support includes a longitudinal channel in the underside of the extrusion, the channel opening to the said underside and a connector member having an external shape complimentary to the shape of the channel and being receivable therein and moveable therealong, the connector means being adapted for connection to
20 the support.
4. A seating system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the connector member has an aperture passing therethrough through which a bolt may pass, which bolt can pass through an aperture in the associated support and to which a nut may be fitted.

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5. A seating system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the connector member has a threaded aperture therein which aperture may receive a bolt passing through a corresponding aperture in the associated support.
- Sub A2
5 6. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein the support is adapted for connection to a surface and has a substantially horizontal portion to which the beam is connected.
- 10 7. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 having a seat which has a back member which is adapted to carry the load of the seat and a seat support which has two arms which are adapted for connection to the back member at two spaced positions so that effectively a truss is formed, one of the arms of the support being adapted to be connected to a beam to locate the seat and the support also having means whereby a seat assembly can be connected thereto.
- 15 8. A seating system as claimed in claim 7 wherein the back member and a seat member are unitary.
9. The seating system as claimed in claim 7 wherein the seat support may include a pivot so the a seat member can be pivotally connected thereto.
- Sub A3
20 10. The seating system as claimed in claim 8 or claim 9 wherein the back and seat members are formed by injection moulding and wherein they each have a perimeter beam moulded integrally therewith.
11. The seating system of claim 10 wherein the perimeter beams are hollow.
12. The seating system of claim 11 wherein during moulding a gas is introduced into the beam area during moulding displacing part of the plastics material therein to provide a beam of the required wall thickness.

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13. The seating system of claim 12 wherein the displaced plastics material is passed from the body of the dies.
14. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein the seat has means whereby identification can readily be provided.
- 5 15. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14 wherein the seat is provided with means whereby a writing tablet can be associated therewith.
16. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 15 wherein the seat is provided with a visual display unit associated therewith.
- 10 17. The seating system of claim 16 wherein the visual display unit is normally located in a recess in an arm rest or the like and can be moved from a first position where it is in the arm rest to a second position where it is deployed in front of the user.
- 15 18. The seating system of claim 17 wherein there is an arm pivotally mounted within or adjacent the recess, the visual display unit being mounted on an elbow at the free end of the arm, the elbow being rotatable about the arm and the visual display unit being rotatable about the other part of the elbow.
- 20 19. The seating system of claim 19 wherein there are stops to the rotational movement to ensure that the visual display unit is constrained to be correctly oriented before it can be moved into the recess and to permit adjustment of the angle of viewing by a user.
20. The seating system of any one of claims 15 to 19 wherein the tablet or the visual display unit is connected to the beam separate from the associated chair.

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21. A seating system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the seat is provided with means whereby it can be readily upholstered and re-upholstered.

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22. A seating system as claimed in claim 21 wherein the upholstered portion for the seat or the back has connection means which co-operate with complimentary connection means on the seat or back and the portions are then held from displacement which would permit disconnection.

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23. A seating system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein each seat is provided with arms.

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24. A seating system as claimed in any preceding claim wherein each seat is provided with an extended back.

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AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 19 February 2001 (19.02.01);
original claim 12 amended; remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

5. A seating system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the connector member has a threaded aperture therein which aperture may receive a bolt passing through a corresponding aperture in the associated support.
6. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 5 wherein the support is adapted for connection to a surface and has a substantially horizontal portion to which the beam is connected.
7. A seating system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 having a seat which has a back member which is adapted to carry the load of the seat and a seat support which has two arms which are adapted for connection to the back member at two spaced positions so that effectively a truss is formed, one of the arms of the support being adapted to be connected to a beam to locate the seat and the support also having means whereby a seat assembly can be connected thereto.
8. A seating system as claimed in claim 7 wherein the back member and a seat member are unitary.
9. The seating system as claimed in claim 7 wherein the seat support may include a pivot so the a seat member can be pivotally connected thereto.
10. The seating system as claimed in claim 8 or claim 9 wherein the back and seat members are formed by injection moulding and wherein they each have a perimeter beam moulded integrally therewith.
11. The seating system of claim 10 wherein the perimeter beams are hollow.
12. The seating system of claim 11 wherein during moulding a gas is introduced into the perimeter beam area during moulding displacing part of the plastics material therein to provide a beam of the required wall thickness.

AMENDED SHEET (ARTICLE 19)